

HEADLINES



Brain Injury Services Unit
100 Fair Oaks Lane 4W-C, Frankfort KY 40621-0001
Phone: (502) 564-3615
FAX: (502) 564-9010
Email: brain.injury@mail.state.ky.us
Internet: <http://dmhmrs.chr.state.ky.us/braininjury/>

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TBI Trust Fund Program Changes

The TBI Trust Fund Benefit Management Program will come under new management, effective August 1, 2001. The TBI Trust Fund Board of Directors has selected Eckman/Freeman & Associates to administer and implement this program. Eckman/Freeman & Associates, based in Louisville, will be responsible for accepting applications for assistance from the Trust Fund, determining applicant eligibility, developing service plans, establishing a

service plan review committee, providing case management, and distributing money from the Trust Fund to purchase services and supports for people with brain injuries.

Services and supports for people with brain injuries who currently have an approved service plan under the TBI Trust Fund are expected to continue without interruption. HMR Associates, which has administered the TBI Benefit Management Program in the past year, is working closely with Eckman/Freeman &

Associates to ensure the consistency of services during this transition period.

The Brain Injury Services Unit provides staff support to the TBI Trust Fund Board of Directors and is assisting with the transition effort. Questions about the transition of the TBI Trust Fund Benefit Management Program may be directed to the Brain Injury Services Unit at 502-564-3615. People with brain injuries, their families, or advocates may call toll free by dialing 1-800-374-9146.

New Providers

Amy Moore, Certified Case Manager: Versailles *Case Management*

Ephraim McDowell Adult Day Health Care: Danville *Structured Day Program*

Louisville Independent Case Management: Louisville *Case Management*

Life Long Occupational Therapy Services, Inc.: Beattyville *Occupational Therapy*

Document, Document, Document!

ABI Medicaid Waiver Providers are urged to carefully attend to their documentation of services. **Incomplete or missing documentation will result in recoupment of payments by Medicaid.** Please ensure that all services are documented as follows:

- **a note must be written each time a service is delivered**
- each note should reflect the date, time the service began and the time the service ended
- the date on the note must match the date on the invoice submitted for payment. If the two dates do not match, payment will be recouped and the provider will have to resubmit a corrected invoice for payment.
- each note should be signed by the person delivering the service and should include the person's title
- no white out should be used in participant files. If an error is made, a single line should be made through the entry and then initialed by the person who wrote the note.
- only information pertaining to the participant should be in the participant's file. Names, notes, or other information about a second participant should NOT be included in the original participant's file.
- personnel actions should be recorded in the personnel file only and should NOT be included in a participant's file
- the service delivered must meet the definition of the service found in the ABI Medicaid Waiver manual; services which do not meet the definitions will not be reimbursed (i.e. counselor addressing vocational issues)
- the service should be delivered according to the participant's plan of care and each note should reflect how the service does so
- each note should reflect whether the participant is progressing toward meeting the goals and objectives or the plan of care.

If you have questions about the documentation required by the ABI Medicaid Waiver Program, please contact the Brain Injury Services Unit at 502-564-3615.

Opportunity to Share First Person Stories

Bill Buglioli is writing a book entitled "Growing Up with Success." After sustaining a severe brain injury, Bill has lived through several difficult life stages, including an exhaustive rehabilitation and recuperation effort. Now, Bill wants to help others who are going through a similar experience by writing and sharing his story.

A special part of "Growing UP with Success" will be culled from answers that individuals with brain injury, family members, and treating professionals provide to a special questionnaire that Bill has developed and which can be obtained by emailing him at: growupsuccess@hotmail.com or by writing him at: Bill Buglioli, 2505 Berwyn Court, Voorhees, NJ 08043.

ABI Medicaid Waiver Amendment Approved

The amendment to the ABI Medicaid Waiver has received long awaited approval from HCFA. Staff of the Division of Long Term Care in the Department for Medicaid Services are working to submit changes to existing regulations and manuals that will allow the amendments to be implemented. BISU staff will soon be announcing the dates and times of informational meetings for existing and potential providers to explain the changes.

The amendment removes many barriers to service provision, including the requirement that all service providers must be licensed. Under the amended waiver, licensure is only required for personal care service providers and for group home providers. All other services providers must be certified (enrolled) with Medicaid. Pre-service training requirements are still in effect for all providers.

Providers of supported employment services may now enroll to participate in the ABI Medicaid Waiver Program.

The amendment increases the case load limitation for case managers from fifteen to forty persons from any funding source. Supervision of case managers may also be provided now by Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurses (CRRN), Certified Disability Management Specialists (CDMS), and Certified Life Care Planners, in addition to Certified Case Managers.

The requirement for an individual discharge plan has been replaced by a requirement that each recipient have a transition plan in place detailing those services and supports that will be received upon discharge from the ABI Waiver program.

Incident reports will now be required of all service providers.

Pre-vocational services have been included in the definition of structured day program services under the amended waiver. Providers will bill only for structured day program services, but pre-vocational activities will be allowable services under the structured day program. Structured day program services will be reimbursed at the current rate.

Reimbursement may now be made for group therapy, which was not previously allowed in the ABI Medicaid Waiver Program.

Perhaps the most exciting result of the amendment is that residential services for adults with brain injuries will be available for the first time. The time limit on services has been eliminated. As long as an individual continues to qualify for services and to progress, he or she will remain eligible for residential services. To qualify for residential services in the ABI Medicaid Waiver Program, an individual must:

- have an acquired brain injury as defined in the regulation and
- have the potential to progress and
- meet nursing facility level of care and
- be financially eligible for Medicaid and
- have lost a caregiver OR
- demonstrate behavior that places the individual or the caregiver at risk of injury or jeopardy that cannot be safely managed by the caregiver OR
- demonstrate behavior that, if not addressed, will result in legal problems for the individual

If you have questions about a provider's eligibility to participate in the amended ABI Medicaid Waiver program, or if you need further information about applying for services, please call the Brain Injury Services Unit at 502-564-3615. People with brain injuries, their families, or advocates may call the Unit toll free at 1-800-374-9146.

Changes in Brain Injury Services Unit Staff

Effective April 16th, Alice Blackwell has been promoted to the position of Program Coordinator in the Acquired Brain Injury Medicaid Waiver Program. In her new position, Alice will be responsible for reviewing plans of care and prior authorization of services, providing technical assistance and training to providers, conducting certification reviews and payment audits, and assisting in the development of policies and procedures for this program. Alice comes to the Program Coordinator position with considerable experience providing community based services and supports to adults with disabilities. Additionally, she has served as staff to the Traumatic Brain Injury Trust Fund Board of Directors and is very familiar with that program. Alice will continue to work from the offices of the Brain Injury Services Unit in Frankfort.

Effective July 16th, Susan Tatum will be in the Administrative Assistant position formerly held by Alice Blackwell. Susan will be staff to the Traumatic Brain Injury Trust Fund Board of Directors as well as support staff to the Brain Injury Services Unit. Susan comes to this position from the Division of Mental Health.

Call for Nominations

Nominations are now being sought for the Outstanding Advocate in Acquired Brain Injury. The presentation of the award will be made on Monday, October 1st, at the opening ceremonies of the Annual Mental Health Institute, in Louisville. To receive this award, an individual must be nominated by his or her peers or people with brain injuries. Nominations may be forwarded to the offices of the Brain Injury Services Unit at 502-564-3615. Individuals with brain injuries, their family members, or advocates may call toll free by dialing 1-800-374-9146.

Quick Access to Kentucky Relay Service

A new abbreviated number that allows quick access to the Kentucky Relay Service is now in operation. Similar to 411 for information and 911 for emergencies, 711 has been designated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as the national three-digit number for relay access. Relay is a telephone service that enables deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled individuals to communicate by phone.

The three-digit number will connect to the relay from any telephone in the state, including pay phones and cellular telephones. To learn more about 711 and the Kentucky Relay Service, call 800-662-2406 Voice/TTY.

For more information about Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, please contact Marcie Rogers in the Division of Mental Health (502) 564-4448

TBI Trust Fund Board of Directors Elects New Chairperson

The TBI Trust Fund Board of Directors has elected Mary Hass, Legislative Advocate for the Brain Injury Association of Kentucky, as its new chairperson. Ms. Hass replaced Dr. Glyn Caldwell, Director of Epidemiology, as chair when his term expired in June, 2001.

BIA Prolink

Linking Professionals to the Best Resources in the Field of Brain Injury

The Brain Injury Association program, Prolink serves as a single point of entry resource for professionals to access cross-disciplinary collaboration, networking, and the latest information on brain injury. For more information on affiliation fees and benefits, contact the Brain Injury Association at 105 North Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, or by email at www.biausa.org.



The 12th Annual Mental Health Institute will be held on October 1-3, 2001 at the Hurstborne Hotel in Louisville.

There will be several sessions focusing on brain injury:

Behind Bars, Behind Labels: Prison Experiences of Offenders with Disabilities- Sandra Mlinarcik, Ph.D., Seven Counties Services, Inc./Dave Noret, Public Defender's Office will be presenting information on the Criminal Justice System and how mental health professionals can work effectively with courts.

Brain Injury: More Than a Silent Epidemic- Long Term Effects of ABI- Pam Pearson, MSSW, Pathways Brain Injury Program/Jenny Wurzback, Director of Community Relations, Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation

Brain Injury Day Treatment Program- Norman Plovnick, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist, Growth Resources

*Nomination forms for
"Outstanding Advocate for Brain Injury"
will be mailed out in mid-August.
(See article on page 4 for additional information.)*

*To be added to the
mailing list to
receive the MHI
Brochure, contact
Susan Tatum at
(502) 564-3615.*

Calendar of Events

TRAININGS:

The following trainings will be held at the Elizabethtown Tourism and Convention Center. *Please contact BIAK at (502) 493-0609 to register or for more information.* Location and dates are subject to change. Trainings are held from 8:30am-5:00pm.

- August 29-30
- September 12-13
- October 24-25
- November 14-15

Case Management Training is now being conducted through the Brain Injury Services Unit. *Please contact Amy Dilorenzo at (502) 564-3615 for more information and to sign-up for training.*

PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR SERIES/CONTINUING EDUCATION:

The following continuing education opportunities will be held at the Frazier Rehab Center in Louisville from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Wednesdays, 4th Floor Activity Room. For more information call (502) 582-7484.

July 25
Relapse Prevention After Brain Injury

August 1
Neuropsychological Evaluation

The new schedule will be available at the beginning of August.

OTHER TRAININGS

Incorporation of Behavioral Approaches in Transdisciplinary Treatment Settings

Friday, August 10, 2001
8:00am-4:30pm
Paducah, Kentucky
Presented by Center for Comprehensive Services, Inc. & Lourdes Home Care

Contact Mary Jo Campbell at (270) 444-2262 x258 for more information.

ABI Medicaid Waiver Training

July 25-26
For more information contact BIAK at (502) 493-0609.

CONFERENCES:

Kentucky Rehab Conference

September 5-7
Embassy Suites,
Lexington
Contact Tracy Van Hook at (888) 640-7173 for more information

Mental Health Institute

October 1-3, 2001
Hurstborne Hotel,
Louisville
Contact Phyllis Parker at (502) 564-4448 for more information



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100 Fair Oaks 4W-C
Frankfort KY 40621-0001



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